



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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March 20, 2001

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT
7000 0520 0021 7582 8791

Robert John Hicken
Mountain Valley Stone
2276 South Daniels Road
Heber, Utah 84032

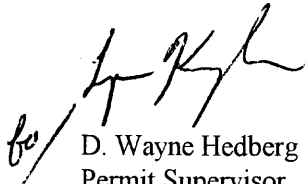
Re: Initial Review of Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations, Mountain Valley Stone, Browns Canyon Mine, M/043/019, Summit County, Utah

Dear Mr. Hicken:

The Division has completed a review of your draft Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations for the Browns Canyon mine, located in Summit County, Utah, which was received January 22, 2001. After reviewing the application, the Division has the following technical concerns which must be addressed before tentative approval may be granted. The review comments are listed below under the applicable Minerals Rule heading. Please format your response in a similar fashion. Please provide a response to this review by April 23, 2001.

The Division will suspend further review of the large mine notice until your response to this letter is received. If you have any questions in this regard please contact me, Lynn Kunzler, or Doug Jensen of the Minerals Staff. If you wish to arrange a meeting to sit down and discuss this review, please contact us at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your cooperation in completing this permitting action.

Sincerely,


D. Wayne Hedberg
Permit Supervisor
Minerals Regulatory Program

jb
Attachment: Review
cc: Leslie Burns, Summit County
Lynn Kunzler, DOGM
O:\review\m43-19 1st rvw.doc

0003

REVIEW OF NOTICE OF INTENTION TO COMMENCE LARGE MINING OPERATIONS

Mountain Valley Stone Browns Canyon Mine

M/043/019

R647-4-105 - Maps, Drawings & Photographs

105.1 Topographic base map, boundaries, pre-act disturbance

Please indicate the appropriate scale on maps included in the notice. The outline of the storage area near the highway on the base map and the outline on the reclamation treatments map are not the same size, please indicate which map is correct. (DJ)

105.2 Surface facilities map

Appendix #2 shows soil removal from areas which are not included in the proposed disturbance. These areas need to be included as part of the proposed disturbance. The map indicates an expansion of the overburden storage area, but no additional acreage is shown for this expansion. Please indicate if any additional acreage will be required for this storage area. (DJ)

105.3 Drawings or Cross Sections (slopes, roads, pads, etc.)

The reclamation treatments map does not indicate what treatments will be applied to the expansion areas. The present road to the site was estimated to be 25 feet wide, on the reclamation treatments map, the area to be regraded and ripped to reclaim this feature is 64 feet wide. Will this additional area be disturbed when this road is reclaimed? (DJ)

Where will the additional topsoil removed from the disturbed areas be stored? (DJ)

Soil storage areas that are shown to the south of the present pit, will need to be moved if the pit expands to the proposed limits. Present soil storage placement is outside of the proposed expansion areas. If this placement is correct, additional acreage will be required to cover these areas. (DJ)

Please show on the reclamation treatments map a border clearly outlining the extent of area to be reclaimed after mining is complete. (DJ)

Please provide North-South and East-West cross-sections of the area to be mined. Each cross-section should show present ground surface, the surface after mining, and after reclamation. (DJ)

R647-4-106 - Operation Plan

106.2 Type of operations conducted, mining method, processing etc.

Please include a complete list of the equipment to be used at the site during active operations. (DJ)

106.3 Estimated acreages disturbed, reclaimed, annually.

The notice indicates a total disturbed area of 11 acres, yet the area shown on the maps total ~14.9 acres (approximated scale). Appendix #2 indicates a proposed acreage of 12 acres. Please clarify which acreage figure is correct. (DJ)

106.6 Plan for protecting & redepositing soils

If topsoil will be stockpiled for more than 4 months, then stockpiles need to be seeded with a quick-growing ground cover (i.e. yellow sweetclover, alfalfa, and orchard grass). Please revise your application accordingly. (LK)

R647-4-107 - Operation Practices

107.1 Public safety & welfare

Warning signs must be posted at the entrance of the mine stating that heavy equipment is being used and that blasting activities may periodically take place at the site. (DJ)

107.5 Suitable soils removed & stored

The plan states that the soil will be removed as the mining and overburden piles advance. Where will this soil be stored? Please be aware that if the soil is stored in areas outside of the present plan, the plan will need to be modified to include these areas. The areas located below the overburden dumps have not been included in the proposed acreage to be disturbed. (LK & DJ)

R647-4-110 - Reclamation Plan

110.1 Concurrent & post mining land use

Unless approved otherwise, the Division will consider the post-mining land use to remain the same as the pre-mining land use of grazing. (LK)

110.2 Roads, highwalls, slopes, drainages, pits, etc., reclaimed

Because of the rocky nature of the material that will exist at the highwall, the use of overburden as backfill and soil (if available), should be used to maximize reclamation success in these areas. (DJ)

Any soil that was placed on the edge of the access road when it was constructed should be regraded over the road before it is ripped and seeded. (DJ)

110.5 Revegetation planting program

The plan states that in areas where soil is used, 5 tons/acre of composted manure amendment will be used. In areas that receive only overburden, 10 tons/acre will be used. For surety calculation purposes, please estimate the number of acres receiving each treatment. (DJ)

R647-4-111 - Reclamation Practices

111.1 Public safety & welfare

1.15 Constructing berms/fences above highwalls

If highwalls exist at the time of final reclamation, berms should be placed in these areas to warn the public of the hazard where direct access would be evident. (DJ)

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111.6 All slopes regraded to stable configuration

To prevent erosion, all overburden slopes should be reduced to a 3h:1v slope angle or less at the time of final reclamation. (DJ)

R647-4-112 – Variance

No variances were applied for in the notice.

R647-4-113 - Surety

Until an adequate response to this review is received, the reclamation surety amount cannot be calculated.
(LK & DJ)

DOCUMENT TRACKING SHEET

USE THIS SHEET WHEN ITEM (S) SHOULD BE SCANNED TO SEVERAL PLACES, SUCH AS A BOND RELEASE FOR AN OUTGOING LETTER. THE LETTER WILL GO IN OUTGOING WITH THIS SHEET BEHIND IT REFERENCEING THE BOND RELEASE FINDINGS IS IN INTERNAL AND THE RECORD # IS ____.

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